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DEFINITIONS OF GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES,
WITH INSTRUCTIONS FOR CORRECT
PRONUNCIATION, FOR THE VAR-
IOUS HIGHER SCHOOLS.

A SUPPLEMENT TO EVERY SCHOOL GEOGRAPHY.

BY
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THE IBERIAN PENINSULA.*

SPANISH : *sierra*=range of mountains, or *mountains*,
monte=mountain ;—*Iago*=*Jacob*, James, *Andér* (for
Andrés)=*Andrew* ;—*mayor*=greater, *menor*=smaller,
serrato=jagged, or toothed, *nevado*=(covered with snow),
snowy, *maladeto* (Aragonese), or *maldito* (fem. *maldita*)
=cursed (cursed by God), *san*, *sant*=saint, holy.

THE BALEARIC ISLANDS are distinguished after their size ; MAJORCA (Sp. *Mallorca*) means THE GREATER ISLAND, and MINORCA (Sp. *Menorca*)=THE SMALLER ISLAND.—SIERRA NEVADA=SNOWY MOUNTAINS.—MONT-SERRAT=THE JAGGED MOUNTAIN (so called from its appearance);—MALADETA=THE CURSED *group of mountains* (so named on account of its wildness).

SANTIAGO=SAINT JAMES (so called in honor of the Apostle James, patron of Spain) ;—SANTANDER=SAINT ANDREW.

* This portion of Dr. Ganzenmüller's MS. was received too late for the BULLETIN of June 30, in which it should have preceded the remarks on France.

PORTUGUESE: *serra*=mountains, *cabo*=cape; *pórto*=*harbor*;—*afór*=hawk; *rōca*=rock;—*estrélla*=star;—*são*=saint, holy; *o*=the (masc. sing.);—*de*=of, *da*=of the (fem.).

The AZORES=ISLANDS OF HAWKS (so called from the great number of hawks found there).—CABO DA ROCA=THE ROCKY CAPE (the steep western point of Europe);—CABO SÃO VICENTE=CAPE OF SAINT VINCENT,—SERRA D'ESTRELLA=MOUNTAINS OF THE STAR, or STAR RANGE.

PORTO=HARBOR (also named *Oporto*=the harbor).

GREEK: *πόλις*=city, *Πομπεῖος*=Pompey, *πιτυς*=pine;—*έσπερος*=(evening), west;—*βάλλειν*=to sling.

The PITYUSES (in Greek *Πιτυούσσαι*)=ISLANDS OF PINES;—BALEARIC ISLANDS=ISLANDS OF SLINGERS (the Balearian slingers are celebrated in the military annals of antiquity).—HESPERIA (as the Iberian Peninsula was named by the ancient Greeks)=THE WESTERN COUNTRY,—*Pompeipolis* (in Biscayan *Pomp-a-eio*), now PAMPLUNA=CITY OF POMPEY (its reputed founder).

LATIN: *térra*=(earth), *land*, *pórtus*=harbor;—*Cæsar*=emperor;—*victòria*=victory, *pax*=peace (rest), *finis*=ena;—*nóvus* (fem. *nóva*)=new.

CAPE FINISTERRE (*finis terræ*)=CAPE “LANDSEND.”—*Portus Cale*, harbor of *Cale*, was the original name of the modern Porto, and from these two words is derived the Latin PORTUCALIA=COUNTRY ABOUT THE HARBOR OF CALE, now PORTUGAL;—*Pax Augusta*, now (in a Spanish corruption) BADAJOZ=REST OF AUGUSTUS (the Roman Emperor);—*Cæsarea Augusta*, now ZARAGOZA=CITY OF THE EMPEROR AUGUSTUS;—*Victoria*, now VITORIA=CITY OF VICTORY (battle A. D. 1813);—*Carthago nova*, now CARTAGENA=NEW CARTHAGE.

CELTIC: *pyra*, hence the PYRENEES=MOUNTAINS;—*dür*, hence the DUERO RIVER.

BISCUYAN: From *ibarra* or *the great river* was derived the Latin *Iberus*, the modern E BRO=STREAM; and from *ura*=water, and *asta*=rock is formed the compound ASTURIA=THE ROCKY COUNTRY ON THE WATER, or on the sea.

PHENICIAN: The ancient *Ibusim*, the later *Ebusus*, the modern IVIZA is synonymous with the Greek *Πιτυούσσα*, and means THE ISLAND OF PINES.—*Gadir*, later *Gades*, now CADIZ=(hedge), CASTLE (a Phœnician settlement).

ARABIAN: *jesireh*=(island, or also) *peninsula*;—*gebel*=mountain, *wadi*=river; *gharb*=west;—*abiad*=white, *kébir*=great;—*al*=the.

From *Gebel al-Tarik* was derived GIBRALTAR=MOUNTAIN OF TARIK (a Moorish general, who conquered this place, A. D. 712).—The *Bætis*, etc., see . . . p. 213.

SOUTH AND CENTRAL AMERICA, MEXICO, WEST INDIES.*

SPANISH: *isla*=island, *cósta*=coast (coast region), *cabo*=cape, *punta*=point of land, *tierra*=land, (region), *istmo*=isthmus, *sierra*=mountains, *cordillera*=a chain, or a range of mountains, *cerro*=a ridge of mountain, *nevado*=snowy mountain, *pico*=peak; *riô*=river, *desaguadero*=a drain; *val*=valley, *angostura*=narrow, *páramo*=desert highland; *ciudad*=city, *villa*=town, city; *puerto* (in Portuguese *pórtico*)=port, *harbor*,—*norte*=north, *ecuador*=equator; *dios*=God, *espiritu*=spirit or ghost, *trinidad*=trinity, *salvador*=saviour;

* Instructions for pronunciation of Spanish and Portuguese words and names have been given on pp. 211-213.

príncipe=*prince*; *Andér* (*Andrés*)=*Andrew*, *Iago*=*James*, *Josē*=*Joseph*, *Juán*=*John*; *mádre*=*mother*; *Lucia*=*Lucy*; *gallina*=*fowl*, *galápago*=*turtle*, *anguilla*=*eel*; *pino*=*pine*, *pásto* (and *pásco*)=*pasturage*; *argentino*=(adj.) *silver*, *pláta*=*silver*, *esmeralda*=*emerald*, *aréna*=*sand*; *agüás*=*waters*; *pata*=*paw*, or *large foot*, *cabello*=*hair*; *cruz*=*cross* (*crucifix*), *pilar*=*pillar*;—*páso*=*passage*, *paráiso*=*paradise*, *aire* (plur. *aires* or *áyres*)=*air*, *fíegeo*=*fire*;—*dominica*=*Sunday*, *domingo*=*Sunday*, *Lord's Day*, *asuncion*=*assumption*, *paz*=*peace*;—*gracias*=*thanks*, *grande*=*great*, *mayór*=*greater*, *blanco*=*white*, *colorado*=*red* (or *colored*), *vermeho*=*red*, *negro*=*black*, *caliente*=*hot* (*ardent*), *templada*=*temperate*, *friō*=*cold*, *nevado* (fem. *nevada*)=*snow covered*, *snowy*, *rápido*=*rapid*, *salado*=*(salty)*, *brackish*, *dulce*=*sweet*, *fresh* (*water*);—*bueno*=*good*, *verō*=*true*, *rico*=*rich*, *real*=*royal*, *san*, *sant* (fem. *santa*)=*saint* (*holy*);—*el* (plur. *los*)=*the* (*masc.*) *la*=*the* (*fem.*);—*de*=*of* (*gen.*, with the *masc. article* *del*=*of the*); *a*=*to* (*dat.*).

TIERRA DEL FUEGO=LAND OF FIRE (so named by Magellan on account of *great fires* which he saw along the coast and which he supposed to be the eruption of volcanoes);—TRINIDAD (*island*) was discovered by Columbus, on the 31st of July, 1498, and received its name in honor of the *Holy TRINITY*;—SAN SALVADOR (*island, country and city*)=THE HOLY SAVIOUR;—SANTA LUCIA=SAINT LUCY (discovered by Columbus, on the 13th of December, 1498, the day of Santa Lucia);—DOMINICA (*island*)=SUNDAY (discovered by Columbus on the 3d of November, 1493, a Sunday, in ecclesiastical Spanish *dominica*, *Lord's Day*);—SANTO DOMINGO (*island, state*,

and *city*)=THE HOLY SUNDAY, or *holy Sabbath*);—ISLAS DE LOS GALÁPAGOS=ISLANDS OF TURTLES;—ISLA DE PINOS=ISLAND OF PINES;—ANGUILLA=EEL—(*island*); PUERTO RICO, in Portuguese *Porto Rico* (*island and city*)=THE RICH HARBOR.—CABO DE LAS GALLINAS=CAPE OF FOWLS;—CABO DE LA SANTA CRUZ=CAPE HOLY CROSS;—CABO DEL PILAR=CAPE OF PILLARS (or *columns*);—CABO DE GRACIAS A DIOS=CAPE THANKS TO GOD!—PUNTA DE ARENAS=SANDY CAPE (or *sandy point of land*).—THE CORDILLERAS=THE CHAINS OF MOUNTAINS; “*Andes*,” from Peruvian “*anti*,” signifies *copper*, or *metal* in general, and *the Cordilleras de los Andes*, therefore, means *the chains of the metal* or *copper mountains*;—CORDILLERA REAL=THE ROYAL CORDILLERA;—SIERRA MADRE=MOTHER MOUNTAINS (so called in distinction from the chains running out from this range of mountains);—SIERRA NEVADA DE SANTA MARTA=THE SNOWY MOUNTAINS OF SAINT MARTHA;—NEVADO DE SORATA=THE SNOWY PEAK OF SORATA;—PICO DE ORIZABA=PEAK OF ORIZABA (so the *Citlaltépetl* is named by the Spaniards);—PICO MAYOR=THE GREATER PEAK (*i. e.* the *Popocatépetl*);—PÁRAMOS=DESERT HIGHLANDS (in the Cordilleras);—RÍO COLORADO=RED RIVER;—RÍO VERMEJO=RED RIVER;—RÍO NEGRO=BLACK RIVER;—RÍO GRANDE DEL NORTE=GREAT RIVER OF THE NORTH;—RÍO RAPIDO=THE RAPID RIVER, also named RÍO DE SANTANDER=RIVER OF ST. ANDREW (in Mexico);—(*Río de*) LA PLATA=(*river, or stream of*) SILVER (so called by Diego Garcia, in 1527, from the silver brought to him by the natives);—RÍO DE SAN JUAN=RIVER OF ST. JOHN;—RÍO SALADO=THE BRACKISH RIVER: RÍO DULCE (in Argentina and Guatemala)=THE RIVER OF

FRESH WATER;—DESAGUADÉRO=A DRAIN (*i. e.* from LAKE TITICACA to LAKE PANSA).

In *Mexico* and *Central America* the belts of land are distinguished as: TIERRAS CALIENTES=THE HOT REGIONS (on the coast), TIERRAS TEMPLADAS=THE TEMPERATE REGIONS, and TIERRAS FRIAS=THE COLD REGIONS (*i. e.* the highland);—COSTA RICA=RICH COAST; EL ISTMO=THE Isthmus (of Panama);—ECUADOR=EQUATOR (so named from its position under the equatorial line);—ARGENTINA=LAND OF SILVER;—PATAGONIA=LAND OF THE MEN WITH LARGE FEET (so called by the discoverer Magellan and his companions, from the large-footed men (*Patagones*) found there (see pp. 370–371, JOURNAL A. G. S., 1887);—BOLIVIA=LAND OF BOLIVAR, liberator of the South American States from Spanish dominion;—COLOMBIA=LAND OF COLUMBUS.

ANGOSTURA=(*city on the*) NARROWS (*of the Orinoco*); it is also named CIUDAD BOLIVAR=CITY OF BOLIVAR;—VILLA DE MINAS=CITY OF MINES (in Uruguay);—CIUDAD REAL=ROYAL CITY (in Mexico);—PUERTO PRINCIPE=HARBOR (OF THE) PRINCE;—PUERTO CABELO=HARBOR OF HAIRS;—ESMERALDA=EMERALD;—AGUAS CALIENTES=HOT WATERS or *springs* (in Mexico);—EL PASO (*del Norte*)=THE (*northern*) PASSAGE (a frontier-town of Mexico);—PASTO, and PASCO=(*place of*) PASTURAGE; hence CERRO (*ridge of mountain*) DE PASTO, and CERRO DE PASCO;—VALPARAISO=VALLEY OF PARADISE; VERA CRUZ=THE TRUE CROSS;—SANTA FÉ=THE HOLY FAITH;—ASUNCION=(*the city of*) ASSUMPTION; LA PAZ=THE PEACE (or *place of peace*) in Bolivia and Lower California;—BUENOS AYRES=GOOD AIR.—ESPIRITU SANTO=(*city of the*) HOLY GHOST (on the island of Cuba);—SANTIAGO

=ST. JAMES ;—SAN JOSE=ST. JOSEPH ;—SAN JUAN=ST. JOHN.

PORTUGUESE : *bahia*=bay, *câbo*=cape, *recife*=reef, *serra*=mountains, *cordilheira*=a chain of mountains, *riô*=river (water), *bárра*=a narrow entrance;—*cidade*=city, *villa*=(village), town, city; *pôrto*=harbor; *o sânto* (plur. *os sântos*)=the saint;—*Luis*=Lewis, *Pédro*=Peter;—*Roque* (Rôke)=Rochus;—*madeiro*=wood; *selva*=forest; *mattó*=copsewood, bushes;—*mina* (plur. *minas*)=mine; *ouro*=gold;—*espinhaço*=(the spine, and) a ridge of mountain; *Janeiro*=January;—*norte*=north, *sul*=south, *branco*=white, *negro*=black, *preto*=black, *grôsso*=large, *grande*=great, *bello* (fem. *bella*)=beautiful, *seguro*=secure, *alégre*=(vivid), frequented, *geral* (plur. *gerâes*)=general; *diamantino* (fem. *diamantina*)=rich in diamonds; *são*=saint, holy;—*tôdo* (plur. *tôdos*)=all; *o* (plur. *os*)=the (masc.), *de*=of (genit., with the masc. article: *do*=of the).

BAHIA DE TODOS OS SANTOS=BAY OF ALL THE SAINTS (discovered on *All Saints' Day*, in 1503).—CABO BRANCO=THE WHITE CAPE;—CABO DE SAN ROQUE=CAPE OF ST. ROCHUS (so named because it was discovered on the 16th of August, 1502, the day of *St. Rochus*);—SERRA DO ESPINHAÇO=THE RIDGE OF MOUNTAINS;—CORDILHEIRA GRANDE=THE GREAT CORDILHEIRA (*the great chain of mountains*);—CORDILHEIRA GERAL=THE GENERAL CORDILHEIRA.—RIO BRANCO=THE WHITE RIVER, a tributary of the RIO NEGRO=THE BLACK RIVER;—RIO GRANDE DO SUL=GREAT RIVER OF THE SOUTH (River and Province in Southern Brazil, so called in distinction from the RIO GRANDE DO NORTE=GREAT RIVER OF THE NORTH;—MADEIRA=WOOD RIVER (it

carries along great tree-trunks in times of floods);—SELVAS=FORESTS;—MATTO GROSSO=THICK COPSE WOOD;—MINAS GERAES=GENERAL MINES.

BAHIA (city)=BAY;—(*Cidade de*) RECIFE (*de Pernambuco*)=(*city on the*) REEF (*of Pernambuco*);—VILLA BELLA=THE BEAUTIFUL VILLAGE, or *city*;—PORTO SEGURO=THE SECURE HARBOR;—PORTO ALEGRE=THE FREQUENTED HARBOR;—RIO DE JANEIRO=WATER OF JANUARIUS (it is situated on an arm of the sea named “*Janeiro*,” probably from its discovery by Solis on the feast-day of *Januarius*, January 1, 1501);—BARRA DO RIO NEGRO=THE NARROW ENTRANCE INTO THE BLACK RIVER;—OURO PRETO=THE BLACK GOLD;—DIAMANTINO (in Matto Grosso)=and DIAMANTINA (in Minas Geraes)=RICH IN DIAMONDS;—SÃO LUIS=SAINT LEWIS;—SÃO PAULO=SAINT PAUL; SÃO PEDRO (*do Rio Grande*)=SAINT PETER (*on the great river*).

* The settlement of BLUMENAU in Brazil was founded by the German physician, DR. BLUMENAU, of Brunswick, in 1850.

FRENCH: *port*=harbor, *terre* (terr)=land, *prince* (pröss)=prince;—*Pierre* (Piérr)=Peter, *Thomé* (Tomë)=Thomas;—*croix* (kroä)=cross:—*grand* (grâ)=great, *basse* (bass)=low; *St.*, *saint* (sä)=saint, holy;—*au* (ö)=to the (dat).

ST. CROIX (island, and city)=HOLY CROSS;—ST. THOMÉ=SAINT THOMAS.—The island of *Guadeloupe* is divided into GRANDE TERRE=THE GREAT LAND, and BASSE TERRE=THE LOWER LAND;—PORT AU PRINCE=HARBOR OF THE PRINCE;—ST. PIERRE=SAINT PETER (on the island of Guadeloupe).

* Definitions of some *Mexican geographical names*

have been given on p. 371, JOURNAL, A. G. S., 1887.

In the *language of the natives of South America* ORINOCO means a STREAM, *para*, hence PARANÁ=RIVER and PARAGUAY=RIVER OF PARROTS; ÁRAU=*free*, and, therefore, ARAUCANIANS (in Chile)=THE FREE MEN;—PETCHERAIS=FRIENDS (so named from their addressing the strangers by the word “*petcherais*”).

The STAITS OF MAGELLAN, so called because discovered and first navigated by *Magalhães*, or MAGELLAN (Spanish), a Portuguese navigator in the Spanish service, in the first voyage round the world (1519-20).—The name of ANTILLES originated from a *mythological island*, ANTILLA, which the first discoverers thought to have found in the island of Hayti.—The VIRGIN ISLANDS were discovered by Columbus, in 1494, and so called by him (in honor of the “*eleven thousand virgins*”).—The FALKLAND ISLANDS were first named after the English *Lord* FALKLAND, but, afterwards, *Isles Malouines* (by French navigators of *St. Malo*); hence in English MALOUINE ISLANDS.—JUAN FERNANDEZ (island) was discovered by a navigator of the same name, in 1576.—CAPE HORN (*Hoorn*) was so called by the Dutch discover, Schouten, after his native town, the *city of Hoorn*, in Holland; and ASPINWALL (Colon) took its name from ASPINWALL, *the builder of the railway over the isthmus of Panama*.

*After European cities, *Cordoba* (in the Argentine Republic), *Granada*, and *Leon* (in Nicaragua), *Nassau* (on the island of New Providence), *Valencia* (in Venezuela) and many others.